

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
HOUSING, HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 2PM, JULY 27<sup>TH</sup> 2011

**Film Forum**

Screenings of Films Relating to the Work of the Seattle City Council

Curated by **Adam Sekuler**

Today's Filmmakers are **Amy Benson** and **Scott Squire**

**Amy Benson** left teaching, a career she loved, when she fell even more in love with documentary film and its potential to do capital-G GOOD for the world. In 2005, she and her husband, **Scott Squire**, jumped head-first into filmmaking by starting their own production company, Nonfiction Media. They trained themselves in the art of video by doing promotional videos for nonprofits and their own documentary shorts, which have shown in film festivals across the country, including a piece about Seattle's Tent City 3, which was selected by The Seattle Times as a three minute masterpiece.

Today's Screening: **"Girl World"**

By Amy Benson and Scott Squire

3 minutes (excerpt from a future feature film)

Girl World is made up of intimate, in-depth portraits of three Nepali girls struggling to stay in school spanning a five-year period. Shanta has a scholarship from an NGO but becomes a target for ridicule each day. Karuna is the daughter of a dying mother who indentured herself as the school janitor to pay for her child's tuition. "Lakshmi" had never been to school, but dreamt of books, writing, and wearing a uniform as she works and hears men speaking of her arranged marriage. But as they become more educated, the girls will see their standards of living improve, will marry later and have fewer children, and will live both statistically – and visually – better than their non-educated peers, leading to the overarching theme that the most important thing to do to end world poverty is to educate girls.

Film Forum Curator: **Adam Sekuler**

Adam Sekuler serves as the program director for Northwest Film Forum located on Capitol Hill. Before arriving in Seattle he was programmer for the nation's first and only dedicated non-fiction theatre, The Bell Auditorium. He is co-founder of Search and Rescue, an ongoing effort to present and preserve discarded archives of 16mm films. He also programmed for the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival and Sound Unseen. In his early years he booked music for the Whole Music Club, Minneapolis' only all ages venue. During his spare time, Adam makes short films that have screened at festivals and museums. You can find him scheming about bus cabarets and penciling in words on crossword puzzles on the weekends.